

FOR PRESENTATION AT COMMISSION MEETING ON JUNE 3, 2002

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 96

SUBJECT: Emergency

COUNTY: Sequoyah/Muskogee County Line

EMERGENCY RECOVERY PROJECT AND DEMOLITION PROJECT FOR BRIDGE NO. 6822-0000 X, NBI 17051; Authorization for Emergency Repair Contracts, I-40 over the Arkansas River, Sequoyah/Muskogee County Line and SH 9, Haskell County

The I-40 bridge over the Arkansas River, McClellan-Kerr Waterway in Muskogee County was struck by a barge causing a 500' section of the bridge to fall. Under my authority as Director, I declared that an emergency situation exists. A number of vehicles on or approaching the bridge also fell into the river. Our first action was to perform recovery of the vehicles. Due to the conditions it was necessary to use an emergency services contract to remove wreckage and stabilize damaged portions of the bridge to recover the victims and vehicles. The Department has entered into a contract with Jensen Construction Company to perform this service. Jensen was chosen because they are a highly capable and qualified firm and further had the necessary equipment and personnel nearby at their project for the construction of the new U.S. 59 bridge downstream from the I-40 crossing. The initial estimate cost of this recovery effort is \$500,00.00.

The second phase of our efforts is the demolition of the remaining damaged portion of the structure. Under my emergency authority as Director, I have negotiated a proposed contract with Jensen Construction to do this demolition work in the amount not to exceed \$850,000.00.

The third phase of our efforts is to have plans prepared to rebuild the damaged sections of the bridge. The Department has selected Poe & Associates to prepare plans for the repair work. The cost of this contract is in an amount not to exceed \$137,000.00.

The final phase of our efforts will be the reconstruction of the bridge. The Department will notify contractors and when the plans are ready and use the emergency procedures authorized by law for the Commission. The Department will take bids and request an emergency award by the Commission.

In addition to the emergency work on the I-40 bridge, the detour route on SH 2 and SH 9 is insufficient for the radical increase in traffic resulting from the closure of I-40. It is necessary to take immediate action in the form of heavy maintenance such as overlays on portions of these highways to prevent pavement failures which would endanger the traveling public. As these areas are identified and corrective action determined, it is the Department's intent to award emergency heavy maintenance and repair contracts or have such contracts ready for emergency award by the Commission as required.

The Department requests the Commission to declare an emergency and under its emergency powers award the demolition contract to Jensen Construction, to program the reconstruction of the bridge on I-40, and to authorize the repair work on SH 2 and SH 9 utilizing the emergency procedures authorized by law.